

In the Claims

1 1. (currently amended) A monolithic microwave integrated circuit, comprising:
2 an amplifier circuit having a group delay variation verses frequency characteristic;
3 and
4 a group delay equalizer circuit integrated with said amplifier circuit to
5 compensate for said group delay variation verses frequency characteristic of said amplifier
6 circuit to frequencies above 50 GHz.

1 2. (original) The circuit of Claim 1, wherein said amplifier circuit is capable of receiving
2 an input signal having a frequency range, amplifying said input signal and producing an output
3 signal corresponding to said amplified input signal, said group delay equalizer circuit being
4 further capable of maintaining near constant group delay of frequencies within said frequency
5 range of said input signal to prevent distortion of said output signal.

1 3. (original) The circuit of Claim 1, wherein said group delay equalizer circuit
2 comprises between 3 and 20 percent of the area of said monolithic microwave integrated circuit.

1 4. (canceled)

1 4.5 (original) The circuit of Claim 1, wherein said amplifier circuit is a distributed
2 amplifier circuit.

1 ⁵~~8~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ⁴~~5~~, wherein said distributed amplifier circuit comprises
2 one or more stages, each of said one or more stages including a common source field-effect
3 transistor, a bipolar transistor or a cascode field-effect transistor structure.

1 ⁶~~7~~ (original) The circuit of Claim 1, wherein said amplifier circuit is a feedback
2 amplifier circuit.

1 ⁷~~8~~ (original) The circuit of Claim 1, wherein said group delay equalizer circuit
2 comprises one or more sections, each of said sections having a different group delay response.

1 ⁸~~9~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ⁷~~8~~, wherein at least one of said one or more sections is
2 placed at the input of said amplifier circuit.

1 ⁹~~10~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ⁷~~8~~, wherein at least one of said one or more sections is
2 placed at the output of said amplifier circuit.

1 ¹⁰~~11~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ⁷~~8~~, wherein at least one of said one or more sections is
2 placed between one or more stages of said amplifier circuit.

1 ¹¹~~12~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ⁷~~8~~, wherein said one or more sections are cascaded
2 together to form a composite group delay response capable of compensating for said group delay
3 variation verses frequency characteristic of said amplifier circuit.

1 ¹²~~13~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ⁷~~8~~, wherein at least one of said one or more sections
2 has least one microstrip line inductive over a specific frequency range and at least one capacitor
3 to create a specific phase response over at least a portion of the frequency range of said amplifier
4 circuit.

1 ¹³~~14~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ¹²~~13~~, wherein at least one of said one or more sections
2 is a filter selected from the group consisting of: an LC filter, a bridged LC filter, an RC filter and
3 an RLC filter.

1 ¹⁴~~15~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ¹²~~13~~, wherein at least one of said one or more sections
2 is a filter with a microstrip transformer.

1 ¹⁵~~16~~ (original) The circuit of Claim 1, further comprising:
2 a substrate, said amplifier circuit and said group delay equalizer circuit being
3 fabricated in said substrate.

1 ¹⁶~~17~~ (original) The circuit of Claim ¹⁵~~16~~, wherein said substrate is made from a material
2 selected from the group consisting of: a III-V material, a II-VI material and a heterostructure
3 material.

1 ¹⁷~~18~~ (original) The circuit of Claim 1, wherein said group delay equalizer circuit is
2 further capable of allowing a near constant gain response to be achieved over the frequency
3 range of said amplifier circuit.

1 ¹⁸~~19~~ (currently amended) A method for providing a near constant group delay over a
2 frequency range of a amplifier circuit, comprising the steps of:
3 providing said amplifier circuit within a monolithic microwave integrated circuit,
4 said amplifier circuit having a group delay response variation verses frequency characteristic;
5 and
6 integrating a group delay equalizer circuit with said amplifier circuit on said
7 monolithic microwave integrated circuit to compensate for said group delay variation verses
8 frequency characteristic of said amplifier circuit to frequencies above 50 GHz.

1 ¹⁹~~20~~ (original) The method of Claim ¹⁸~~19~~, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving an input signal having a frequency range at said amplifier circuit;
3 amplifying said input signal to produce an output signal corresponding to said
4 amplified input signal; and
5 maintaining, by said group delay equalizer circuit, near constant group delay of
6 frequencies within said frequency range of said input signal to prevent distortion of said output
7 signal.

1 ²⁰~~21~~ (original) The method of Claim ¹⁸~~19~~, wherein said group delay equalizer circuit
2 comprises between 3 and 20 percent of the area of said monolithic microwave integrated circuit.

1 22. (canceled)

1 ²¹~~23~~ (original) The method of Claim ¹⁸~~19~~, wherein said step of integrating further
2 comprises the step of:
3 integrating one or more sections of said group delay equalizer circuit with said
4 amplifier circuit on said monolithic microwave integrated circuit, each of said sections having a
5 different group delay response.

1 ²²~~24~~ (original) The method of Claim ²¹~~23~~, wherein said step of integrating said one or more
2 sections further comprises the step of:
3 placing at least one of said one or more sections at the input of said amplifier
4 circuit.

1 ²³~~25~~ (original) The method of Claim ²¹~~23~~, wherein said step of integrating said one or more
2 sections further comprises the step of:
3 placing at least one of said one or more sections at the output of said amplifier
4 circuit.

1 ²⁴~~26~~ (original) The method of Claim ²¹~~23~~, wherein said step of integrating said one or more
2 sections further comprises the step of:
3 placing at least one of said one or more sections between one or more stages of
4 said amplifier circuit.

1 ²⁵~~27~~ (original) The method of Claim ²¹~~23~~, wherein said step of integrating said one or more
2 sections further comprises the step of:

3 cascading said one or more sections together to form a composite group delay
4 response capable of compensating for said group delay variation verses frequency characteristic
5 of said amplifier circuit.

1 ²⁶~~28~~ (original) The method of Claim ¹⁸~~19~~, wherein said step of integrating further
2 comprises the step of:

3 integrating said group delay equalizer circuit with said amplifier circuit on said
4 monolithic microwave integrated circuit to allow a near constant gain response to be achieved
5 over the frequency range of said amplifier circuit.

1 ²⁷~~29~~ (new) A monolithic microwave integrated circuit, comprising:
2 an amplifier circuit having a group delay variation verses frequency characteristic;
3 and
4 a group delay equalizer circuit integrated with said amplifier circuit to
5 compensate for said group delay variation verses frequency characteristic of said amplifier
6 circuit, said group delay equalizer circuit comprising a plurality sections, each section having a
7 different group delay response, said plurality of sections being cascaded to form an overall
8 composite group delay response.

1 ²⁸~~30~~ (new) The monolithic microwave integrated circuit of claim ²⁷~~29~~, wherein said
2 amplifier circuit has a plurality of stages.

1 ²⁹~~31~~. (new) The monolithic microwave integrated circuit of claim ²⁸~~30~~, wherein said
2 plurality of sections can be separated by said plurality of stages.

1 ³⁰~~32~~. (new) The monolithic microwave integrated circuit of claim ²⁷~~29~~, wherein said
2 group delay equalizer circuit is capable of compensating for said group delay variation verses
3 frequency characteristic of said amplifier circuit to frequencies above 50 GHz.